

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant herewith submits replacement drawing sheets.

REMARKS

This is a response to the Office Action mailed March 17, 2006. Claims 1 - 20 remain pending in the application. Claims 13-20 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the Examiner's restriction requirement. Claim 1 has been amended by the amendment being filed herewith. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Objection To The Drawings

The drawings have been objected to for failure to show reference numerals on the figures as described in the specification. Replacement drawing sheets are being submitted herewith. In particular, replacement sheets are being submitted for the sheets on which FIGs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7b, and 8 - 13 are illustrated. The replacement sheets contain reference numerals that were not shown in the original drawings, but that are supported by the specification and drawings as originally filed. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Formal drawings are being prepared and will be submitted once they have been prepared.

Objection to the Disclosure

The specification has been objected to because of a minor informality. The specification has been amended to correct the minor informality noted by the Examiner as well as other informalities. No new matter has been added by these corrections. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Rejection Of The Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1 and 3 - 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,049,148 to Nichols et al. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Examiner states that Nichols et al. discloses the invention as recited in claims 1 and 3 – 12. The Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's findings. However, independent claim 1 has been amended to further clarify that which the Applicants regard as the invention. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the feedback control system is "used in conjunction with a proportional-integral-derivative (PID) controller". Nichols et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest a feedback control system used in conjunction with a PID controller. For at least this reason, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is patentable over Nichols et al. Because claims 3 – 12 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and therefore incorporate the limitations of claim 1, these claims are also patentable over Nichols et al. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 3 – 12 under 35 U.S. C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

Rejection Of The Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

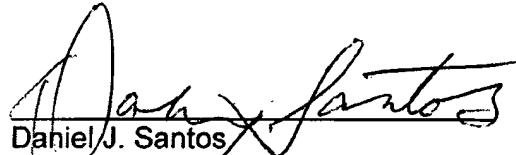
Claims 2 and 8 - 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,049,148 to Nichols et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,223,512 to Koltze et al. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Because claims 2 and 8 – 10 depend from claim 1, which is believed to be patentable over Nichols et al. for the reasons described above, the rejection of claims 2 and 8 – 10 is deemed moot. Consequently, the Examiner's findings with respect to claims 2 and 8 – 10 and the Examiner's combination of Nichols et al. and Koltze et al. will not be addressed. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments submitted herein and the above comments, it is believed that all grounds of rejection are overcome and that the application has now been placed in full condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits early and favorable action. Should there be any further questions or reservations, the Examiner is urged to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney at (770) 984-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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